Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, In 1874, an expedition of 1,000 men traveled to the Black Hills of Dakota Territory to explore the region for precious metals, agricultural and timber purposes; and,

WHEREAS, Members of that expedition, Boratio N. Ross and Willis McKay, discovered gold in the sands of French Creek; and,

WHEREAS, The State of South Dakota has been a major gold-producing state for over 100 years; and,

WHEREAS, South Dakota is the home of the oldest continually producing gold mine in North America; and,

WHEREAS, South Dakota has entered the international gold and silver bullion market with products mined and minted in the state; and,

WHEREAS, The State of South Dakota will annually produce, from this day forward, gold and silver bullion pieces featuring the plains bison, an animal native to South Dakota:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim that we have entered the

ERA OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA BISON

and the citizens of this great State are pleased to join in a partnership with Tri-State Mint and the South Dakota mining industry to present to the world, the South Dakota Bison.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Governor's Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventeenth Day of April, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Seven

GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST: